HANDEL·AND·HAYDN SOCIETY

HANDEL

HAYDN

140th SEASON

SYMPHONY HALL

"MESSIAH"

SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 12, 1954

MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 13, 1954

Handel and Haydn Society

140th SEASON

1954-1955

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One Hundred and Fortieth Season

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Concerts 921 and 922

GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL'S ORATORIO

THE MESSIAH

199th and 200th Performance by This Society

Under the Auspices of

Massachusetts Committee

of the

National Cathedral Association

Symphony Hall, Boston

SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 12, 1954

MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 13, 1954

at 8:00 P.M.

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Ruth Diehl, *Soprano*

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SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF 55 PLAYERS

Julius Theodorowicz, *Concertmaster*

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Chickering Pianos used exclusively by the Handel and Haydn Society

It is requested that there be no applause except at the end of Part One and at the conclusion of the performance.

GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL

Born in Halle, February 23, 1685 — Died in London, April 13, 1759

THE MESSIAH

ORATORIO, composed in 1741; begun August 22, finished September 14. Text selected from the Scriptures by CHARLES JENNENS. Produced in Dublin, April 13, 1742, under the direction of HANDEL. Additional accompaniments by MOZART, 1789; and by ROBERT FRANZ, for the use of the Handel and Haydn Society, completed and published in 1884. First performance by the Handel and Haydn Society, December 25, 1818, in Boylston Hall; present performances are the 199th and 200th.

PART ONE

THE PROPHECIES AND THE FULFILLMENT

1. Overture (Grave: Fugue).

TENOR RECITATIVE

2. Comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord: make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

ARIA

3. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low: the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

CHORUS

4. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed; and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

BASS RECITATIVE

5. Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come; the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

ARIA

6. But who may abide the day of His coming! and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire.

ALTO RECITATIVE

7. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name EMMANUEL. God with us.

CHORUS

8. O! thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, say unto the cities of Judah: Behold the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

BASS RECITATIVE

9. For behold darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and the Gentiles shall come to Thy light, and kings to the brightness of Thy rising.

A Message on

WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

from

THE RT. REVEREND ANGUS DUN, D. D.

Bishop of Washington

✠

Washington Cathedral can be likened to a powerful transmitter. In it the message of God is amplified to reach people far and near. It speaks daily to the young people in the schools on Mount Saint Alban. It speaks to the thousands of young people who come to Washington every year from many parts of our Country and include the Cathedral in their pilgrimages.

When great servants of our common life are buried from the Cathedral it speaks to our whole Country of the faith with which we meet life and death.

At Christmas and Easter the televised services at the Cathedral reach into hundreds of thousands of homes throughout the land.

Through the majesty of soaring columns and buttresses, through the glories of colored glass, through the voices of organ and choir, through the spoken word and sacred action of sacraments it speaks. And to those who have ears to hear, it speaks always of God and of His meaning for our lives.

Angus Dun,

Bishop of Washington

ARIA

10. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

CHORUS

11. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
12. PASTORAL SYMPHONY (on the traditional air of the Calabrian pifferari).

SOPRANO RECITATIVE

13. There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.
14. And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them; and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.
15. And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
16. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying:

CHORUS

17. Glory to God in the highest; and peace on earth, good will towards men.

SOPRANO ARIA

18. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold thy King cometh unto thee! He is the righteous Saviour; and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

ALTO RECITATIVE

19. Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

ALTO AND SOPRANO ARIA

20. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom; and gently lead those that are with young .... Come unto Him, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and He will give you rest; Take His Yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

CHORUS

21. His yoke is easy, and His burthen is light.

INTERMISSION

PART TWO

THE PASSION AND THE TRIUMPH

CHORUS

22. Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.

National Cathedral School Girls coming from Bethlehem Chapel, where they hold their regular Friday morning chapel services. The background is the southern view of the CATHEDRAL APSE. This portion of the edifice faces the east, from where the heroic figures of St. Peter, St. Paul and St. John have prophesied that Christ will come again.

ALTO ARIA

23. He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

CHORUS

24. Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows! He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

CHORUS

25. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way. And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

TENOR RECITATIVE

26. All they that see Him, laugh Him to scorn; they shoot out their lips, and shake their heads saying:

CHORUS

27. He trusted in God that He would deliver Him; let Him deliver Him, if He delight in Him.

TENOR RECITATIVE

28. Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness; He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man; neither found He any to comfort Him.

ARIA

29. Behold and see, if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

TENOR RECITATIVE

30. He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken.

ARIA

31. But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell; nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

CHORUS

32. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

SOPRANO ARIA

33. How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.

BASS ARIA

34. Why do the nations so furiously rage together; and why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His anointed.

TENOR RECITATIVE

35. He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

ARIA

36. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

The National Cathedral Association

The National Cathedral Association is a nationwide fellowship of friends of Washington Cathedral, organized in 1898. Since the date of its founding thousands of men and women have joined its ranks and carried on the work with courage, determination and faith.

Members of the National Cathedral Association have helped build the cathedral. They have supported it — advocated it — prayed for it. It is due to their faith and their vision no less than to their generosity that the cathedral has come this far toward completion.

In the last 56 years many distinguished persons have shared in the leadership of this association — turning back the pages one sees such names as Henry White, John J. Pershing, Andrew Mellon. Today the President of the National Cathedral Association is the Hon. Orme Wilson.

The National Cathedral Association under his presidency continues to advance the cause of Washington Cathedral with the same broad vision and faith that has characterized its progress thus far.

The Massachusetts Committee of the National Cathedral Association will be happy to have you join the association.

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CHORUS

37. Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. HALLELUJAH.

SOPRANO ARIA

38. I know that my Redeemer liveth; and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

BASS RECITATIVE

39. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep; but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

ARIA

40. The trumpet shall sound; and the dead shall be raised incorruptible; and we shall be changed.

CHORUS

41. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain and hath redeemed us to God by His blood. to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, forever and ever.

42. Amen.

THE PERMANENT FUND

The Permanent Fund of the Handel and Haydn Society was established by a deed of trust on May 28, 1866. The net proceeds of the Great Festival of May, 1865, at the end of the Civil War, furnished the foundation of the Fund, and it has grown slowly by gifts and bequests.

Only the income of the Fund can be used for the benefit of the Society.

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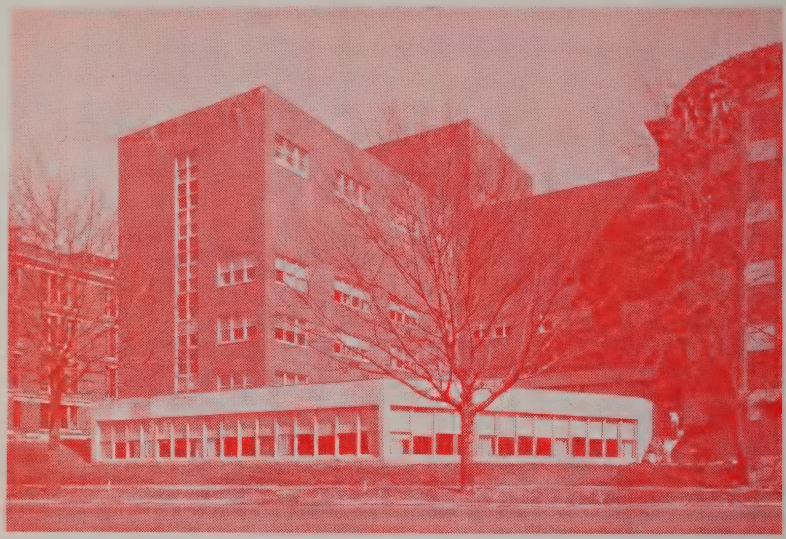

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11:30 P.M. Festival Service of Holy Communion
CHRISTMAS DAY
10:30 A.M. Holy Communion

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10:30 p.m. Christmas organ music
10:45 p.m. Festival Celebration of the Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY: Saturday, December 25
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion, Congregational Carols

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS: December 26
8 and 10 a.m. Holy Communion
11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon

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CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE
Sunday, December 19, 7:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION
Friday, December 24, 11 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES
Holy Communion at 8 and 11 a.m.

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
4:00 P.M. Children's Pageant

CHRISTMAS EVE
11:00 P.M. Holy Communion; Candlelight

CHRISTMAS DAY
10:30 A.M. Holy Communion

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CHRISTMAS EVE
10:00 p.m. Festival Candlelight service of Holy Communion with Boys' Choir and Sermon by the Rector.
11:30 p.m. Festival Candlelight service of Holy Communion with Polyphonic Choir and Sermon by the Rector.

CHRISTMAS DAY
8:00 a.m. Holy Communion.
11:00 a.m. Holy Communion, Choir and Sermon, Mr. Krug.

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SUNDAY SERVICES
8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Family Service)
11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon
(1st Sunday of Month Holy Communion)

TUESDAYS
9:15 a.m. Fellowship of Prayer
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

11:00 A.M. Christmas Carol Service, two choirs, 60 voices

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 P.M. Children's Manger and Carol Service
11:00 P.M. Candlelight Choral Service of Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 A.M. Festival Celebration of the Holy Communion

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Family Service
11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and sermon
7:00 p.m. Vesper Service of music
Junior and Senior Choirs

CHRISTMAS EVE

10:45 p.m. Carol Singing
11:00 p.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Family Service, Junior Choir

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES — 1954

December 19—THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
10:30 A.M. Procession to the Manger and King's College Service of Lessons and Carols
Address — The Rector

December 24 — CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30 P.M. Carols and Prayers at the Creche
(Short service for children and parents)
10:30 P.M. Christmas Carols
11:00 P.M. MIDNIGHT COMMUNION; Candle Light

December 25 — CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 A.M. Family Christmas Service — Holy Communion and Carols; Brief Address

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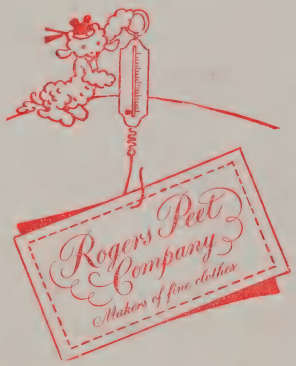

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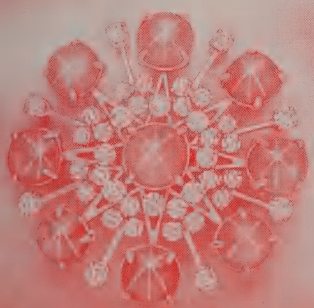

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